

EUREKA Call for Proposals for Network projects
on
Healthy Ageing
Between
Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Luxembourg, Malta, Spain, Turkey and UK

Time Schedule

Opening of the Call	14 April 2020
Deadline for applications	5 August 2020
EUREKA Label and Funding Decision	November 2020
Signature of the Consortia Agreements & Project Start	November 2020/March 2021

Introduction

EUREKA (www.eurekanetwork.org) is an intergovernmental organisation for market-driven industrial R&D. It is a decentralised network facilitating the coordination of national funding on R&D&I, aiming to boost the productivity & competitiveness of European industries. Following a bottom-up approach with projects being of any technological area with a civilian purpose, EUREKA has been the driving force of innovation in Europe for over 30 years.

1. Participating Funding Agencies and Countries

Within the EUREKA initiative, the call is based on mutual consent between the participating funding bodies:

1. FFG (Austria)
2. VLAIO and SPW (Belgium Flanders and Wallonia)
3. National Research Council (Canada)
4. Bpifrance (France)
5. Ministry of the Economy (Luxembourg)
6. Malta Enterprise (Malta)
7. CDTI (Spain)
8. TÜBİTAK (Turkey)
9. Innovate UK (UK)

2. Scope

Participants are invited to submit applied research and innovation project proposals in the following thematic domains:

Development of digital health tools and smart devices to promote healthy ageing.

These can include (but are not limited to):

- connecting robotics and medical imaging systems to simplify surgical procedures
- software as a medical device (or diagnostic) incorporating artificial intelligence
- software for better diagnostics or therapy
- digital health and smart drug delivery services

- linking big data capabilities with new knowledge from precision medicine to create precision health offerings that promotes preventive interventions before symptoms of disease manifest.

3. Eligibility criteria

In order to apply to the present call, the partners must meet the following qualifications:

- The consortium should include at least two (for profit) independent companies from two of the participating countries. The participation of research institutes/universities is welcome according to each country's funding regulations.
- The project partners must express their willingness to cooperate, on a win-win/fair basis in the development of a new product, industrial process or service.
- The product, process or service must be innovative and there must be a technological risk involved.
- The project must have a civilian purpose.
- The project should benefit all involved partners in a well-balanced consortium.
- The project should have an obvious advantage and added value resulting from the technologic cooperation between the participants (e.g. increased knowledge base, commercial leads, access to R&D infrastructure, etc.).
- A signed consortium agreement is mandatory before the actual start of the project. The consortium agreement should at least include the ownership and use of know-how and IPR settlements.
- The duration of the project may not exceed 36 months.

Any partner whose collaborative industrial research and innovation project is consistent with the aforementioned criteria can apply to the present call in accordance with their national laws, rules, regulations and procedures in effect, on a non-exchange of funds basis, and subject to budgetary availability.

Each participating funding body may apply additional eligibility criteria based on their national regulations. Applicants are strongly advised, prior to submitting the application, to contact their funding body (see below) to discuss their project idea and check the eligibility of the project.

Partners from other EUREKA countries or countries outside of EUREKA can also participate, but funding must be secured within the deadlines for the call.

4. Submission

There are 4 stages to the submission and assessment process:

Stage 1: EUREKA application

All partners must complete the EUREKA project application form online which is available in the call webpage through <https://www.eurekanetwork.org/calls-for-projects>. It must be completed online by **5 August 2020 by 17.00 Central European Summer Time (CEST)**. The form must be completed in English.

The project consortium is strongly advised to read the form carefully, follow the guidelines and complete all necessary elements in the form as requested. You can contact your EUREKA National Project Coordinators to get support in preparing the form (see below for detailed information for each funding agency in section 7).

Stage 2: National applications

In parallel to the submission of the EUREKA project form, all project partners are required to submit a related national funding application, if required, to their respective funding agencies, taking into account all relevant procedures and submission rules. Deadline for submission might differ between the participating funding agencies, see below for detailed information for each funding agency.

Stage 3: International and national evaluation

All applications are assessed against the eligibility criteria of the call before being put forward for the national assessments according to the national evaluation criteria.

Successful projects are put forward for a EUREKA label. After a common list of labelled and non-labelled projects has been agreed, applicants will be informed about the results.

Stage 4: National funding decision

Funding will only be provided to labelled projects that are positively evaluated by all participating funding agencies, taking the common ranking list into account. Funding of project partners is subjected to budgetary availability and national funding conditions stipulated by each funding body.

5. Evaluation

Applications will be evaluated nationally. The basis for the national evaluation is the general EUREKA eligibility criteria, national eligibility criteria and evaluations, the EUREKA application form with annexes and if required a national application form.

A multilateral consensus meeting between all involved national funding bodies (NFBs) will agree which projects to approve based on the assessors' scores, using the EUREKA project assessment methodology (see Section 8). After a common list of funded and non-funded projects has been agreed, the national funding agencies and EUREKA Association will inform the applicants about the results.

6. Funding Conditions and National Funding Budgets

Funding will only be provided to labelled projects that are positively evaluated by all participating funding bodies. Funding of project partners is subjected to budgetary availability and national funding conditions stipulated by each funding body.

Any IPR arising from cooperative project activities under this call shall be regulated in a Consortium Agreement (CA) in accordance with the relevant laws of the countries participating in the project.

A signed CA on the execution and commercialisation of the projects results is mandatory for selected projects and must be sent to the relevant national funding agencies no later than 12 weeks after the results of the evaluation have been communicated. The project start can in any case not be prior to the approval of the signed CA.

The funding bodies named below will provide access to public investment for the selected projects. The support will be given to each partner by its respective funding body in accordance with their national laws, rules, regulations and procedures in effect, on a non-exchange of funds or soft loan basis, and subject to budgetary availability for each funding body.

Name of National Funding Body (NFB)	Country	Type of finance	Allocated budget	Max funding per project
FFG	Austria	Grant	Flexible	Flexible
VLAIO	Belgium Flanders	Grant	No limits	Flexible
SPW	Belgium Wallonia	Grant or loan	1M€	Flexible
National Research Council Canada	Canada	Grant-type	No Limits	\$600,000
Bpifrance	France	Repayable advances / Loans	No limits	Flexible
Ministry of the Economy	Luxembourg	Grant	No Limits	Flexible
Malta Enterprise	Malta	Mix grant – tax credits	Flexible	Flexible
CDTI	Spain	Mix loan-grant	No limits	Flexible
TÜBİTAK	Turkey	Grant	No Limits	Flexible
Innovate UK	UK	Grant	£2M	£500,000

NB: The budgets in the table are indicative. You must consult your National Funding Agency for further details.

7. Funding conditions and rules per NFB

7.1 Austria

Specific National rules	
	The deadline for the national application is 5 August 2020. Project Applications must be submitted online via FFG ecall: https://ecall.ffg.at/Cockpit/Cockpit.aspx All Information about the national funding programme: https://www.ffg.at/programm/basisprogramm Rules and procedures: https://www.ffg.at/sites/default/files/downloads/bpunternehmensprojektkombileitfaden_22082018_1.pdf Guideline Eligible Costs: https://www.ffg.at/recht-finanzen/kostenleitfaden

Eligible costs and funding rates	All companies registered in Austria are eligible for funding, universities and research centers can be funded as subcontractors only. In addition to the EUREKA project form the Austrian participant has to submit a separate national full proposal to the General Program (Basisprogramm) via eCall at the FFG webpage. The evaluation of the Austrian project part is carried out by internal experts. The project must fulfil the national criteria ("Basisprogramm-Leitfaden"). There is no dedicated budget for this call. Funding in Austria is provided on an annual basis only, therefore follow-on applications must be submitted for the max. duration of 3 years. The funding provided by FFG are grants: • max. 60% of the eligible costs for small companies, • max. 50% of the eligible costs for medium-sized companies and • max. 40% for large companies.
Additional documents required	Full national Basisprogramm proposal
Contact persons	EUREKA Project Manager: Marie Katharine Traunfellner marie-katharine.traunfellner@ffg.at, Tel: +43 (0) 57755 – 4705; Johanna Scheck johanna.scheck@ffg.at, Tel: +43 (0) 57755 – 4907 Basisprogramm: Karin Ruzak, karin.ruzak@ffg.at; Tel: +43 (0) 57755 – 1507

7.2 Belgium – Flanders region	
Specific National rules	In the VLAIO programme only companies can apply for funding via subsidies. Flemish or foreign academic partners or research institutes can be funded by VLAIO if their expertise is crucial for the Flemish partner (company) and if they are subcontracted by this company.
Eligible costs and funding rates	In Belgium-Flanders the funding % for companies depends on the type of activities in the project, the size of the company and the participation of at least one SME : between 25% to maximum 60%. Development (D) /Research (R) - small enterprise: up to 50% (D) / up to 60% (R) - medium-sized enterprise: up to 45% (D) / up to 60% (R) - large enterprise: up to 35% (D) / up to 60% (R)
Additional documents required	In addition to the centrally submitted EUREKA Project Application Form, partners from Flanders need to submit an application to VLAIO, including a project plan and budget. We invite Flemish partners to contact us for a pre-check of their project ideas. More info: https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/subsidies-voor-ooi-een-internationaal-consortium/netwerken

Contact persons	Alain Thielemans Phone: +32 492 150 705 Email: alain.thielemans@vlaio.be
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7.3 Belgium – Wallonia

Specific National rules	A Walloon application form must be submitted (see below); Minimum 40% of the Walloon budget must be allocated to an enterprise; The project cannot receive double funding; The beneficiary must have a stable financial situation; The beneficiary must have Operational offices in the Walloon Region; The project must add benefit to the regional economy.
Eligible costs and funding rates	Funding rates are depending on the type of research (Industrial research or Experimental development) and of the type of partnership. Funding rates vary between 35% to 60% for large companies and from 50% to 80% for SMEs. Universities and Colleges funding rate is 100% and 75% for research centers.
Additional documents required	In addition to the EUREKA Project Application Form, partners from Wallonia have to submit an application to SPW-Research by the 5 August 2020 at 17:00. We strongly advise Walloon partners to contact us for a pre-check of their project ideas. More info can be found in the Walloon EUREKA webpage.
Contact persons	SPW Economie, Emploi, Recherche (SPW-Research) Nicolas Delsaux EUREKA NPC Belgium Wallonia E-Mail: Nicolas.delsaux@spw.wallonie.be Phone: +32 473 55 61 74

7.4 Canada

Specific National rules	In order to be considered for NRC IRAP funding, the basic eligibility criteria are as follows. See http://nrc.canada.ca , Support for technology innovation, Financial support (...) • Be a small and medium-sized enterprise in Canada, incorporated and profit-oriented; • Have 500 or fewer full-time equivalent employees; and • Have the objective to grow and generate profits through development and commercialization of innovative, technology-driven new or improved products, services, or processes in Canada. Canadian participants must contact NRC IRAP before starting to fill a project proposal. See contacts below.
Eligible costs and funding rates	Up to 50% of Total Project Cost which is calculated as Salaries (for eligible personnel and activities) + Overhead (55% of Salaries) + Contractor Costs, for eligible activities. Eligible Canadian SMEs may receive up to 50% reimbursement of eligible project costs up to a maximum total funding amount of \$600,000 over 12 to 36 months.

	Funding details must be discussed with one of NRC IRAP Industrial Technology Advisors located across Canada.
Additional documents required	After contacting NRC IRAP Canadian applicants will be provided an Expression of Interest (EOI) form to be submitted <u>by July 3, 2020</u>. It is <i><u>strongly recommended</u></i> that they wait for NRC IRAP to confirm that they are potentially eligible for funding before assembling and submitting a proposal. Once the proposal under this Call has been assessed by NRC IRAP: If it is selected the Canadian applicant will have to submit an NRC IRAP funding application. Complementary information may be required such as annual and interim financial statements.
Contact persons	Eric Holdrinet, EUREKA Deputy NPC Email: Eric.Holdrinet@cnrc-nrc.gc.ca Gordon Jolly, Industrial Technology Advisor Email: Gordon.Jolly@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

7.5 France	
Specific National/ Regional rules	Bpifrance supports innovative companies and research institutes/universities in building technological partnerships through grants or loans depending on the type of project. Anyways the rules are as follows: • Partnerships: Two or more industrial partners (a foreign company and a French company) • No country or partner representing more than 70% of the total budget of the project. • Eligible Beneficiaries: French companies up to 2000 fulltime equivalents (FTE) • Duration: maximum of 3 years
Eligible costs and funding rates	➤ Innovation Development Aids • Eligible costs: industrial research and experimental development (industrialization and commercialization costs are not eligible) • Funding amount: from € 50,000 up to € 3 Million (submitted to financial analysis of the company and financial conditions) • Funding: zero interest rate loan reimbursable in case of technical success, up to 65% of the eligible costs for an SME and up to 50% for midcap companies. Any payment is subject to a signed consortium agreement. ➤ Technological Partnership Grants • Eligible costs: market prospection, technical feasibility studies, partner research, legal assistance, etc. • Funding amount: a subvention that covers up to 50% of the setup costs up to € 20,000

Additional documents required	The French partner must prepare the following documents: • A EUREKA Project Form in English - this is the official EUREKA label request. • Confidential information for the French authorities - detailed contribution in the project, innovative aspects, economic return, competition position, business plan. • Consortium agreement draft, notably on collaborative aspects of the project (knowledge sharing, IPR, results exploitation, management organization, etc.).
Contact persons	Mael M'Baye, International Program Manager at Bpifrance Email: international.innoproject@bpifrance.fr

7.6 Luxembourg					
Specific National rules		Only companies (SME and large companies) can apply for funding via the Ministry of the Economy (aid schemes under the law of 17 May 2017 relating to the promotion of research, development and innovation)			
Eligible costs and funding rates		In Luxembourg, the funding % for companies depends on the type of activities (industrial research, experimental development) in the project and the size of the company:			
		Type of activities	Large enterprise	Medium-sized enterprise	Small enterprise
		Experimental development	≤ 25 %	≤ 35 %	≤ 45 %
		Industrial research	≤ 50 %	≤ 60 %	≤ 70 %
		+ max 15% due to an effective collaboration (<i>with a maximum of 80%</i>)			
Additional documents required		Applicants are requested to contact Luxinnovation – the national Eureka office – at least four weeks before the call deadline. In addition to the centrally submitted EUREKA Project Application Form, applicants from Luxembourg need to submit an application to the Ministry of the Economy by 5 August 2020.			
Contact persons		Mr. Alexander Link Phone: +352 43 62 63 – 864 Email: alexander.link@luxinnovation.lu			

7.7 Malta	
Specific National/Regional rules	Malta Enterprise will finance Industrial research and/or experimental development activities of Malta companies. Universities and research centres could take part as subcontractors.
Eligible costs and funding rates	Funding conditions vary depending on the nature of the project and the beneficiaries. EUREKA projects in Malta are supported through Research and Development 2014-2020 Incentive Guidelines found on http://www.maltaenterprise.com/support/research-and-development-2014-2020
Additional documents required	Each company must complete and submit the national application form and annexes to Malta Enterprise, which are found on: https://www.maltaenterprise.com/support/eureka-instruments-network-projects-eurostars-clusters Funding decision is expected within 3 months after submitting an eligible funding application. It is mandatory that national funding approval is obtained prior to the project activities start.
Contact persons	Malta Enterprise Mrs. Oxana Mercieca +356 2247 7624 Email: oxana.mercieca@maltaenterprise.com Malta Life Sciences Park Mr. Pierre Theuma, +356 2247 7622 Email: pierre.theuma@mlsp.com.mt

7.8 Spain	
Specific National/ Regional rules	CDTI will finance industrial research and/or technological development activities of Spanish companies. Universities and research centers could take part as subcontractors.
Eligible costs and funding rates	Funding conditions for Spanish partners may vary depending on the nature of the project and the beneficiaries. The features of the main funding tool for EUREKA projects in Spain is available here: https://www.cdti.es/index.asp?MP=100&MS=802&MN=2
Additional documents required	Each company must complete and submit the funding application to CDTI within 20 days after receiving the communication of eligibility. Funding decision is expected within 3 months after submitting an eligible funding application. It is mandatory that project activities do not start before submitting the funding applications to CDTI. For further information, please contact CDTI.
Contact person	Mr. Oscar Fernandez Moyano, Tel: +34 91 581 0489 Email: oscar.fernandez@cdti.es

7.9 Turkey	
Specific National rules	All companies which were established in accordance with Turkish law can apply for funding for their international projects. There is no budget limit for international projects and they can be funded by TUBITAK without any restriction in project duration. Only companies participating in international projects are funded within this program but universities and research centers can be funded as subcontractors.
Eligible costs and funding rates	Companies receive certain percentage of their eligible costs as a grant in this call. There is no maximum or minimum limit to the budget of project. The percentage is 60% for large companies and 75% for SMEs.
Additional documents required	Turkish applicants must complete their national application in two weeks after the EUREKA application at the latest. For further information about financing of Turkish participants please directly contact with TÜBİTAK. Detailed information can also be reached from here .
Contact persons	Mr. Umut Ege T. +90 312 298 1861 E-Mail: umut.ege@tubitak.gov.tr

7.10 UK	
Specific National/ Regional rules	All funding guidance is provided at https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/ Your project The total grant available to the UK applicants is up to £500,000. Your project can last up to 2 years and is expected to start between November 2020 and March 2021. The start date is dependent on the national funding procedures of the countries involved in the selected projects. No individual organisation, or individual country, can claim more than 70% of the total eligible costs for the entire joint project. UK lead applicant To lead an application as a UK organisation you must: • be a UK based business of any size • collaborate with a business of any size from another country in the call. • carry out the majority of your funded work within the UK

	All UK organisations Research organisations, public sector organisations and charities can be partners on the project but cannot lead in the UK. The UK research organisations in your consortium can share up to 30 percent of the UK total eligible project costs. If your consortium has more than one UK research organisation, this maximum is shared between them. Your project can include subcontractors but they must not account for more than 20% of the total eligible costs for the entire joint project. Every UK organisation must carry out the majority of its funded work within the UK, and partner organisations must carry theirs out in the partner country. The commercial partners in a consortium must be separate legal and non-linked entities. This is to ensure that projects encourage genuine international collaboration, not internal company research. Where the companies are linked, they shall be considered a single entity under the parent company. Linked companies can specify which nation they want to request funding from. Where companies are linked, the individual companies will receive funding from their respective national funding body. Organisations from other countries Organisations from other EUREKA countries can participate provided: • they arrange their own funding • the project meets the eligibility participation criteria of UK and partner country organisations
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Eligible costs and funding rates	The national funding agencies will fund the organisations from their respective countries. UK organisations Innovate UK have allocated up to £2 million to fund UK innovation projects in this competition. UK companies could get funding for their eligible project costs of: • up to 70% if you are a micro or small business • up to 60% if you are a medium-sized business • up to 50% if you are a large business The total grant available to the UK applicants is up to £500,000 per project. The UK research organisations in your consortium can share up to 30 percent of the UK total eligible project costs. If your consortium has more than one UK research organisation, this will be shared between them. This competition provides state aid funding under article 25 of the General Block Exemption Regulation. It is your responsibility to make sure that your organisation is eligible to receive state aid.
Additional documents required	All UK applicants should refer to the guidance at: https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/
Contact persons	Michael Kipping, Innovate UK Email: Michael.kipping@innovateuk.ukri.org Alternate email: globalteam@innovateuk.ukri.org

8 Common EUREKA Assessment Criteria

In addition to the common EUREKA assessment criteria there can be national evaluation criteria and requirements.

1. Impact	1. Is the market properly addressed in terms of size, access and risk?
	2. Is the value creation in terms of growth, employment, environmental and societal benefits properly addressed?
	3. What are the competitive advantages of the project? (Strategic importance of the project, enhanced capabilities and visibility)
	4. Are the commercialization plans clear and realistic (Return on investment, Geographical sectoral impact)

2. Excellence	1. What is the degree of innovation (Commitment on State-of-the-art and the technological maturity and risk)
	2. How is the new knowledge going to be used?
	3. Is the project challenging scientifically, technically and for the partners?
	4. Are the technical achievability & risk conveniently addressed
3. Quality & Efficiency	1. How is the quality of the consortium? (Well-balanced partnership, technological managerial and financial capacity of each partner)
	2. Is there an added value through the international co-operation?
	3. Are the project management & planning realistic and clearly defined? (Methodology and planning approach, milestones and deliverables)
	4. Is the cost structure reasonable? (Cost and financial commitment of each participant)
4. Overall Perception	1. Pros and cons of the application
	2. Is the project recommended for public investment? (Yes or No)